GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3693
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
EXPORT PROMOTION COUNCIL
Shakya Shri Raghuraj Singh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is compulsory for an exporter to become a member of an Export Promotion Council and pay annual fees, before being allowed to export;

(b) the amount of annual fees being collected by each export promotion council for renewal of RCMC;

(c) whether the government is aware that the welfare of pharma exporters is not being taken care by Chemexcil/Pharmexcil export promotion council; and

(d) the steps the government has taken to make the working of these councils productive and exporter friendly?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN)

(a) No Sir, it is not compulsory to become a member of an Export Promotion Council and pay annual fees, before being allowed to export. It is only for claiming benefits under Foreign Trade Policy that an exporter has to obtain Registration-cum-Membership Certificate from the specific Export Promotion Council and pay annual membership fee.

(b) The annual fee for renewal of Registration-cum-Membership(RCMC) varies from Council to Council. Some EPCs charge at a flat rate whereas others on the basis of scale of manufacture/exports.

(c) & (d) It is not true to state that the welfare of pharma exporters is not being taken care by Chemexcil/Pharmexcil. Both these export promotion councils, being trade bodies managed by exporters, have contributed significantly to the promotion of pharmaceutical exports. The Government has been providing support to both these councils for organizing buyer seller meets, participation in exhibitions and fairs abroad etc. for the promotion of exports.